THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) Yes, Sir. All efforts were made to revive the satellite after the unexpected occurrence of the massive short-circuit on October 1, 1997. The steep drop in available power created problems in the thermal management of the spacecraft which in turn resulted in the malfunctioning of the propellant system. The spacecraft was declared inoperable on October 5, 1997.

(b) After the short-circuit on Bus-2 on October 1, 1997 the satellite was observed to generate only 25 to 30 per cent of the rated power. The south solar array which is required to track the sun was found to be stuck in one position. The non-availability of sufficient on-board power created consequential difficulties in the thermal management of the spacecraft which in turn led to the malfunctioning of the propellant system of the spacecraft. This in turn resulted in depletion of fuel and the satellite was declared inoperable on October 5, 1997.

(c) Efforts are underway to augment the INSAT space segment capacity on an urgent basis through lease or purchase of in-orbit capacity.

Representation in U.N. Organisations

117. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the present representation of Indians in the UN Organisations are negligible;

(b) if so, the details and reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to initiate steps to increase the representation of Indians; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) No. Sir.

(b) to (d) Recruitment to U.N. Organisations is based on equitable geographical representation calculated on the basis of population, membership and financial contributions, thus determining the "desirable range" for each country. India is considered to be an "over-represented" country since Indian nationals recruited by the U.N. exceed the "desirable range" for India. The Government is constantly keeping the matter under review.

Haj Pilgrimage

118. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be please to state:

(a) whether official deputationists are sent to Saudi Arabia every year for Haj;

(b) if so, the official tenure of the stay;

(c) if so, the number of deputations sent to Saudi Arabia and their tenure of stay in 1996-97;

(d) whether despite the work required after the Mina Fire episode several deputationists were recalled; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALIM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The period of deputation varies between one to three months.

(c) A total of 290 officials (97 administrative staff, 94 doctors and 99 paramedical staff) were sent to Saudi Arabia for Haj '97 with the period of their deputation varying between four to eight weeks.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

PHC in Maharashtra

119. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Primary Health Centres and Family Planning Centres in Maharashtra as on September 30, 1997, and

(b) the amount provided by the Union Government to these centres during 1995-96 and 1996-97?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) As per the available information as on 31.12.96 there are 1695 Primary Health Centres functioning in Maharashtra. Family Welfare Services are also provided through a network of Rural Family Welfare Centres, Post Partum Centres, Urban Family Welfare Centres, and Urban Health Posts. There are 428 Rural Family Welfare Centres, 121 Post Partum Centres, 74 Urban Family Welfare Centres and 278 Urban Health Posts functioning in Maharashtra.